

Reinvigorating Beauty Symposium

Merlijn Schoonenboom

Beauty 2.0: The Reappraisal of Late 19th-century Academic Painting on the Internet

Dutch cultural historian Merlijn Schoonenboom (*1974) has been an art journalist for the Dutch newspaper *De Volkskrant*, and is the Germany-correspondent for the weekly magazine *De groene Amsterdammer*. He wrote several books, among which *De nimfen de bunny. De wonderbaarlijke reis van een schilderij van kunst naar kitsch en weer terug* (2015), which was translated into German as *Was ist schön? Wie unser Geschmack sich wandelt* (2018). He lives and works in Berlin.

Barend van Heusden

Perception, action, and sense making: the three realms of the aesthetic

Professor Dr. Barend van Heusden holds the chair of *Culture and Cognition, with special reference to the Arts*, in the Department of Arts, Culture and Media Studies at the University of Groningen (The Netherlands). He has worked and published in the fields of literary and culture theory, semiotics and cognition, as well as arts and culture education.

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Daan Evers

Beauty and Objectivity

Daan Evers is assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Groningen. He specializes in metaethics and aesthetics.

Lisa Schmalzried

Human Beauty, Invigorated beauty

Lisa Schmalzried studied philosophy at LMU Munich and the University of St. Andrews. In 2012, she finished her doctorate at LMU Munich. In 2018, she received her *Venia Legendi* for philosophy at the University of Lucerne. Since 2018, she has been the academic head of the international doctoral program „Ethics and Responsible Leadership in Business“ at the Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics. She is also a member of the Foundation Board of the Center. From 2020 to 2022, she was a substitute professor for practical philosophy at MLU Halle-Wittenberg.

Her research interests lie in aesthetics and art philosophy, normative and applied ethics, and social philosophy. In aesthetics, she works on human beauty and beauty per se, art evaluation, kitsch and the aesthetics of the popular. She is also interested in topics that arise at the interface of ethics and aesthetics. In ethics, she focuses on the ethics of leadership and value-based leadership, ethics of care and virtue ethics. In social philosophy, her research topics are leadership and power and the philosophy of relationship, love, and friendship.

She is (co-)author of the following monographs:

1. *Menschliche Schönheit*. Münster: Brill / mentis, 2021.
2. *Kunst, Fiktion und Moral*. Münster: mentis, 2014.
3. with Dieter Frey. *Philosophie der Führung – Gute Führung lernen von Kant, Aristoteles Popper & Co*. Heidelberg: Springer Wissenschaftsverlag, 2013.

Giselinde Kuipers

The Expanding Beauty Regime and Its Consequences, or: How It Became so Important to be Beautiful

Giselinde Kuipers is research professor of sociology at the KU Leuven in Belgium. She is the author of *Good Humor, Bad Taste: A Sociology of the Joke* (2006/2015) and numerous articles on the social shaping of cultural standards, for instance in the field of beauty, media, humor, popular culture, journalism, fashion, translation and their social consequences. In 2022, she received an ERC Advanced Grant to study Beauty and Inequality in five global cities.

Ines Schindler

How does beauty feel? Exploring profiles of emotions elicited by beautiful nature, arts, design, social events, and persons

Ines Schindler is a Senior Researcher in the Department of Language and Literature at the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics (Frankfurt am Main, Germany). She received her diploma in psychology from Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and her Ph.D. (Dr. rer. nat.) from Technische Universität Dresden. Ines worked as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Utah, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Freie Universität Berlin, and Universität Potsdam. She served as an Interim Professor of Differential Psychology and Diagnostics (Universität Potsdam) and of Developmental and Educational Psychology (Universität Koblenz-Landau, Campus Landau) and received her *venia legendi* for psychology (Habilitation) in 2015. Her current research is on aesthetic emotions of adults, adolescents, and children, with one focus on how negative emotions (sadness and fear) are mediated by aesthetic emotions (being moved, suspense, fascination, and awe) to give rise to positive aesthetic experiences. She has developed the Aesthetic Emotions Scale (AESTHEMOS) as a measure of aesthetic emotions (versions for adults and children). Ines further has studied the emotions of being moved, suspense, admiration, and adoration and has recently started a new project on the educational potential of science fiction films in cooperation with professors at Europa-Universität Flensburg.

Ann-Sophie Lehmann

A Beautiful Gesture

After studying art history in Vienna, Ann-Sophie Lehmann completed her PhD at Utrecht University in 2004 and worked at the Media & Culture Department of the same University. Since 2015 she holds the chair of art history & material culture at the University of Groningen. She has received a NWO Veni grant in 2005 and fellowships from a.o. the Warburg Institute, the Getty Research Institute, and the Max-Planck Institute of History of Science. Lehmann is editor-in-chief of the series *Studies in Art and Materiality* (Brill) and member of the editorial boards of *Kunstschrift*, the *Netherlands Yearbook for History of Art*, *Zeitschrift für Kunstgeschichte* and the advisory board of *Zeitschrift für Geschlechterforschung und visuelle Kultur*. From 2020-2025 she leads the NWO research project *Curious Hands. Moving Making to the Core of Education*.

Eva Waterbolk

The Beauty of Lines: Tracing the Journal Drawings of Henry David Thoreau

Eva Waterbolk is a second-year Research MA student in Arts, Media & Literary Studies, specializing in Art History and Material Culture. Her research interests are broad, but she is especially interested in nineteenth-century artistic, natural historical, and ethnographic artifacts that lay at the intersection of nature, science, and religion. Waterbolk likes to use an object-based approach and is specifically drawn to entanglements of aesthetics, materiality, and ecocriticism.

Lucas Rinzema

Touching Trouble: An Eco-Phenomenology of Haptic Beauty in Film

Lucas Rinzema is a Research MA student in Arts, Media and Literary Studies at the University of Groningen. He has BA degrees in Philosophy and in Arts, Culture and Media. Current research interests include (film-) phenomenology, (film-) aesthetics, ecocriticism and representations of nonhuman animals. The focus, as in the present talk and paper, most often lies at the intersections of these fields. Besides this, he is a filmmaker working mostly on short, non-narrative films in collaboration with musicians. Recent work is viewable at vimeo.com/eitheror.

Sanna McGregor

Compositing Digital Nature: the operational beauty of virtual film environments

Sanna McGregor is a Research MA student and teaching assistant in the Department of Arts, Culture, and Media at the University of Groningen. She holds a BA in film studies and an MLitt in dramaturgy. Current research interests include ecocinema, stop frame animation, and operational aesthetics.

Anna-Rosja Haveman

Ecocritical beauty? Extraction of North Sea oil and gas in the artistic practice of Tanja Engelberts

Anna-Rosja Haveman is PhD researcher at the University of Groningen. Her PhD project looks at ecocritical artistic approaches to coastal landscapes in The Netherlands from 1970 until today. The research questions how artists engender ecological awareness, while still creating ambiguous artworks. In 2021 she organized a MA/PhD Summer School “The Knowledge of the Curator: Curating Art and Nature” and in 2022 she was session convenor of the Panel “Aesthetics and Politics of Sustainability” at the Association for Art History’s 48th Annual Conference, London/online.

In addition to her PhD research, she is curating two upcoming projects: a solo-exhibition of the Spanish artist Cristina Lucas at Museum Kranenburgh and a residency program *Deluge* with three artists who travel to coastal regions in England and The Netherlands. She has previously worked at the Groninger Museum as junior curator and founded the *Livingallery* during her studies.

Anna-Rosja Haveman has published among others in the Dutch art journals *Metropolis M*, *Kunstlicht* and *de Bulletin van de Vereniging Rembrandt*. Academic publications include the paper “The 5 Continent documenta 7 - The material of James Lee Byars’s ephemeral practice” in *Zeitschrift für Ästhetik und allgemeine Kunstwissenschaft* (2021).

Julian Hanich

Film and the Beauty of Nature: An Ecological Perspective

Julian Hanich is Associate Professor of Film Studies at the University of Groningen. He is the author of two monographs: *The Audience Effect: On the Collective Cinema Experience* (Edinburgh UP, 2018) and *Cinematic Emotion in Horror Films and Thrillers: The Aesthetic Paradox of Pleasurable Fear* (Routledge, 2010). With Daniel Fairfax he co-edited *The Structures of the Film Experience by Jean-Pierre Munier* (Amsterdam UP, 2019); and with Christian Ferencz-Flatz he was responsible for an issue of *Studia Phaenomenologica* on ‘Film and Phenomenology’ (2016). He is currently writing a short monograph on Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau’s *City Girl* (Edition Text + Kritik) and co-editing a volume entitled *What Film Is Good For* (University of California Press).